

**Thomas Jefferson to Peter Charles L' Enfant, March 14,
1802, from Thomas Jefferson and the National Capital.
Edited by Saul K. Padover.**

Jefferson to L'enfant 1

Washington Mar. 14. 1802.

Sir

Your letter of the 12th is at hand. immediately on the receipt of the former one I referred it to the board of Commissioners, the authority instituted by law for originating whatever proceedings regarding this city have been confided by the legislature to the Executive. their opinion, which I approved, was that they could only repeat you the offer formerly made with the approbation of General Washington, and they undertook to do this. for any thing else, the powers of the legislature are alone competent, and therefore your application to them was the only measure by which it could be obtained. Accept my respects & best wishes.

Th: Jefferson

MAJR LENFANT.

[Ms., *Jefferson Papers*, Library of Congress.]